

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 017309/0173

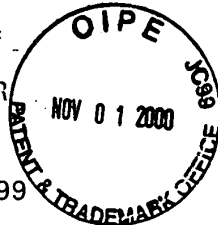
In re patent application of

Josef Otto-RET TENMAIER

Serial No. 09/380,731

Filed: September 13, 1999

For: ANCILLARY FILTERING AGENT



Group Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: S. Kim

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed August 1, 2000 (Paper No. 8) please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

A substitute specification and a two-stage mark-up/redline are enclosed. Entry of the substitute specification, which contains no new matter, is respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Once amended) Filter aid which comprises finely divided wood particles which have been subjected to a chemical liquid treatment that removes sensorially active substances therefrom, [characterized in that] wherein the particles [have been] subjected to a treatment with a dilute alkali solution at a temperature below 100°C and at atmospheric pressure, [which removes] to a degree sufficient to remove the sensorially active substances from the wood particles and leave the wood particles as wood particles.